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I am not able to follow Dr. Boas's deduction of a formula for r in this case, and it does not appear to give the true correlation r of the two variables.

KARL PEARSON

BIOMETRIC LABORATORY,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON,
June 6, 1909

THE DARWIN CELEBRATION AT CAMBRIDGE

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I shall be obliged if you will allow me to contradict a statement which has been made in an American newspaper in reference to Professor Haeckel and the Darwin Celebration. The article in question was sent to me by a friend as a cutting and I am unable to give the name of the newspaper. The writer of an article entitled "Haeckel, the fighting scientist retires from Jena University," says: "He (Professor Haeckel) would have been glad to accept an invitation to the Cambridge celebration of the Darwin centenary—had he received it. None came, however, although a large number of such invitations have been sent to scientists who, to say the least, are no more distinguished than himself and to hundreds of scientific societies. It is strongly suspected that clerical prejudice has had a large share in this extraordinary omission. It is quite unjustifiable, for, whatever may be thought of Professor Haeckel's philosophic speculations, not even his enemies venture to deny his great service in the development of Darwinism."

The facts are these: A large number of universities, academies and learned societies were invited by the University of Cambridge to appoint delegates to attend the Darwin Celebration in June of this year. In response to this invitation the University of Jena appointed Professor Haeckel as its delegate. At a later date, after replies had been received from universities and other corporate bodies, several invitations were sent to individuals other than those already nominated as delegates. A short time ago Professor Haeckel wrote to express his regret that ill-health rendered a visit to Cambridge impossible, and his successor in the chair of zoology, Professor Plate, was appointed in his stead. I

need hardly add that if Professor Haeckel had not been appointed a delegate he would certainly have been invited as a private guest. I may state that some years since Professor Haeckel received from Cambridge University the honorary degree of doctor of science.

I am, Yours faithfully,

A. C. SEWARD

*One of the Honorary Secretaries to the
Darwin Celebration Committee; Pro-
fessor of Botany in the University.*

BOTANY SCHOOL,
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QUOTATIONS

VIVISECTION

LITERARY reference or allusion makes readable sometimes the barer facts of science. The vogue of Rudyard Kipling will render more popular a scientific cause to which he happens to lend his name. It is for that reason, rather than for the value of his statement, that we quote the poet as follows on a question of the day:

The doctor is exposed to the criticism of persons who consider their own undisciplined emotions more important than mankind's most bitter agonies; who would cripple and limit research for fear research might be accompanied by a little pain and suffering. But if the doctor has the time to study the history of his own profession he will find that such persons have always been against him—ever since the Egyptians erected statues to cats and dogs on the banks of the Nile.

The opponents of vivisection ought to oppose murder, and therefore to be vegetarians. They should also object to forced labor and therefore never ride behind a horse. They should in sound logic oppose larceny and not drink milk. They should never allow an animal to be punished in process of being trained. In scientific experiment few animals are taken, compared to those killed for food or kept at forced labor all their lives. Most of them are unconscious. The question of when to use anesthetics must be left to science, since in a small but important fraction of the work drugs must be dispensed with; and it would be fatal to have ignorant outsiders concerned in so critical a decision. Such outsiders are cap-